

# 2019 OSU Extension Annual Conference

January 24-25, 2019

Following the  
January 23-24  
Community Engagement  
Conference.

## 2019 Community Engagement Conference

Partnering for a Resilient and Sustainable Future

### Breakout Session 1: Friday, January 25, 2019 ■ 9:45-10:30am

#### OSU Extension Operations – Finance Update/Q&A

The OSU Extension Operations team will present updates on a range of finance topics including travel and procurement. The updates will be followed by an open discussion that will give staff an opportunity to clarify any areas of concern.

**Presenters:** Jesse Buxton – OSU Extension county fiscal officer; other members of OSU Extension Operations

#### Leading Across Generations

Millennials are officially the largest generation in the workforce. This generation of highly educated 20- to 30-year-olds tends to have an unconventional leadership and work style, which can be a source of either inspiration or conflict. In this engaging and hands-on session, we will address the cultural and attitudinal differences between generations and provide insights into how higher education professionals can leverage the best of each generation to create an effective workplace. All generations are encouraged to attend this session to help break down generational stereotypes and build common ground for workplace success.

**Presenters:** Danae Wolfe – OSU Extension educational technology specialist, Learning and Organizational Development

#### Constructing and Chunking: Writing Fact Sheets for Understanding

Extension brings research and knowledge directly to the citizens of Ohio so they can use scientifically based information to better their lives, businesses, and communities. However, with many Ohioans struggling with literacy, making fact sheets with technical information understandable can be a daunting task. Cindy will discuss writing techniques to make technical information readable and understandable for a broad audience. Constructing takes complex, technical information and creates a learning structure for the reader. Chunking helps the reader identify central concepts and build understanding. Examples will be used from OSU Extension publications to show how constructing and chunking can help reader understanding.

**Presenters:** Cindy Folck – OSU Extension program manager, agriculture and natural resources communication

#### The Earned Income Tax Credit: Sustainable Poverty Alleviation in Research and Practice

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is the largest anti-poverty program in the United States, and it reaches nearly one million Ohio families every year. Many low-income families are able to access the credit thanks to the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which provides free tax preparation services in partnership with community organizations across the country. Two highly successful VITA sites are operated by Ohio State's Fisher College of Business and Moritz College of Law, where student-volunteers help more than 250 Columbus-area families file their taxes every year. We will provide an overview of the EITC and VITA programs, review important research demonstrating how the EITC has led to sustainable economic well-being for families, and discuss the successes and challenges of developing and operating a student-powered VITA clinic.

**Presenters:** Lauren Jones – assistant professor, Ohio State Department of Human Sciences, and OSU Extension;

Susan Colbert – OSU Extension program director, community and economic development, Franklin County

## **Raising Awareness, Building Capacity, and Sustaining Food Systems Transformation on Columbus' South Side**

Members of Food-mapping for Empowerment, Access, and Sustainable Transformation (FEAST) will provide an overview of their approach to understanding and empowering transformation of our local food system. *I Am My Brother's Keeper* (IAMBK) is one of FEAST's partners with whom they are working to increase healthy food access on Columbus' Southside. Learn how parents and youth from the IAMBK program collaborated with FEAST to map their lived experience accessing healthy food on the Southside, how they learned to tell their stories, and how those stories are inspiring transformative change in the Southside food environment. Also learn how the framework and theories look in practice: collective impact, civic engagement, and appreciative inquiry. In addition, learn how community coaching helped the task force create a sustainable action plan.

**Presenters:** **Karima Samadi** – OSU Extension program coordinator; **Ingrid Adams** – associate professor, Ohio State College of Allied Medicine, Medical Dietetics; **Glennon Sweeney** – senior research associate, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Ohio State; **Daniel Remley** – associate professor and OSU Extension field specialist; **Clarence Jackson** – former OSU Extension program assistant, Franklin County community member, South High School; **Stacie Burbage** – OSU Extension program coordinator, community catalyst, Franklin County

## **How to Survive Your First Two Years in Extension**

On average, OSU Extension has hired approximately 25 new educators each year for the past several years. In addition to the struggles of learning a new job, these new educators are being hired during a period of organizational restructuring. New educators can easily feel overwhelmed in the first months of their new job as they try to develop a county program, answer questions from the community, and figure out what exactly it means to be an Extension educator. Five relatively new Extension educators representing ANR, 4-H, and FCS will share tips, tricks, and techniques that allowed them to successfully survive the first two years in Extension. Learn how to manage life/work balance, what to track, building community relations, prioritizing tasks, professional development, program planning, volunteer management, funding, where to find answers, and other topics needed to be successful. A Q&A session will be included.

**Presenters:** **Amanda Bennett** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Miami County; **Ashlee Dietz** – OSU Extension educator, 4-H youth development, Trumbull County; **Lorriisa Dunfee** – OSU Extension educator, family and consumer sciences, Belmont County; **Erika Lyon** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Jefferson County; **Alisha Barton** – OSU Extension educator, family and consumer sciences, Miami County; **Lee Beers** – OSU Extension area leader and educator, agriculture and natural resources, Trumbull County

## **Worker Ownership: Sustainable Economic Development through the Cooperative Model (Ignite Session ■ 9:45-9:50am)**

Cooperative businesses create a resilient and sustainable future for worker-owners. Co-ops create viable long-term employment and opportunities for career advancement; particularly for individuals in distressed economies and service industries. Additionally, worker-ownership empowers people, improves their quality of life, and enhances the communities in which they live and work. We will present best practices of working together to support economic development. Using Unity Coffee and Teahouse, Parkersburg, West Virginia's first worker-owned cooperative, as a model, we will inspire educators, students, business and community developers to collaborate for greater impact. Participants will recognize the value of diversity in partnerships and learn best practices of engaged service to achieve a shared goal.

**Presenters:** **Hannah Scott** – program manager, CFAES Center for Cooperatives; **Ivory Harlow** – program specialist, CFAES Center for Cooperatives

## **Rethinking Advisory Committees**

**(Ignite Session ■ 9:50-9:55am)**

The Medina County office of OSU Extension has piloted a new model for advisory committees that rethinks the format, execution, and structure of Extension advisory committees of the past for greater utilization of resources. A change in expectations for the members results in greater engagement all around, with a deeper sense of mutual benefits for participation. A fluid, working group of partners, supporters, and community members can serve as ambassadors for Extension, where their role goes beyond table discussions about programmatic updates. Ambassadors serve to advocate, support, and provide feedback to the local county office. Learn how we have transformed; we will cover the early outputs of this pilot in our community which include a website, promotional campaign, and identification of areas of interest and community needs which will direct projects for ambassadors in the coming year.

**Presenters:** **Morgan Domokos** – OSU Extension educator, 4-H youth development, Medina County;  
**Ashley Kulhanek** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Medina County

## **Community Engagement and Education through Virtual Reality**

**(15-minute session ■ 9:55-10:10am)**

Virtual reality (VR) provides an efficient way to transport audiences to destinations on land, sea, and in the air without having to leave their chair. VR is the future of educational field trips and can be implemented into Extension programming. Through community partnerships, Extension educators are developing VR videos to educate youth on food sustainability and employment opportunities in their community.

**Presenter:** **Brooke Beam** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources/community development, Highland County

## **Working with Natural Resources Assistance Council Partners to Preserve Land for Future Generations**

**(15-minute session ■ 10:10-10:25am)**

The focus of the Clean Ohio Fund's Green Space Conservation Program is to enhance water quality by funding preservation of open spaces, sensitive ecological areas, and stream and river riparian corridors which connect and preserve floodplains. Learn about an OSU Extension educator's experience during nine years in his role serving on the area Natural Resources Assistance Council (NRAC) and how he assists government and nonprofit applicants throughout the process of Clean Ohio project development. The presentation is targeted toward Extension educators and academics who would like to learn more about serving on their local Natural Resources Assistance Council and develop a better understanding of building effective partnerships.

**Presenter:** **Jerry Iles** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Fairfield County



## **Breakout Session 2: Friday, January 25, 2019 ■ 10:45-11:30am**

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### **Design Thinking: An Innovative Approach to Program Design**

Design thinking is an innovative approach to program or product design that includes five stages: empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test. This workshop-style session will provide participants with an introduction to design thinking, examples of how it is currently being implemented in higher education, and many hands-on design-thinking activities for an immersive experience. Participants will leave with a better understanding of the non-linear process necessary for designing solutions to complex challenges and opportunities. They will be armed with activities to utilize right away in their work with colleagues, partners, and community members. Additional information will be provided for continued learning and development opportunities in design thinking.

**Presenter:** **Danae Wolfe** – OSU Extension educational technology specialist, Learning and Organizational Development

## Support Staff: The Foundation to a Sustainable Future

We are establishing and fine-tuning a manual that will act as a foundation for job activities of OSU Extension office associates and assistants. The manual will be a continually evolving guide. Input from office associates and assistants will help shape what new hires, as well as seasoned support staff, have at their fingertips to guide them through day-to-day activities. This will include what best practices work for others in the county Extension offices; the intended audience is OSU Extension office associates and assistants. Solutions may be found by seeing what others are doing that could apply to your county, helping to relieve some stress and free up some of your time. We will have a roundtable discussion where everyone has a role to play in finishing this manual. Attendees will receive copies of the work in progress, as well as red pens for editing and adding information.

**Presenters:** **Faye Wilson** – OSU Extension office associate, Athens County; **Ashley Gerber** – OSU Extension office associate, Holmes County; **Patty Corfman** – OSU Extension fiscal office associate, Operations

## Tools for Inclusion for Fostering Workforce Resilience

Horticultural activities can open the doors for persons with disabilities to enjoy the therapeutic rewards of growing and cultivating plants for food and beautification. Gardens and greenhouses can also provide rewarding job opportunities for persons with cognitive disabilities. Both for-profit and nonprofit gardens can provide meaningful work experience and help individuals grow to be valuable employees. Join us to discuss the roadmap one collaboration of partners created to focus on delivering an educational tool for a specific audience with defined needs. Learn how the project fosters inclusion, generates resilience in the agricultural workforce, and provides a catalyst in transfer of knowledge. The training package designed through this project delivers task guides and safety resources to fit the needs of an agricultural workforce with cognitive disabilities, ultimately adding diversity to the partnership audience while focusing on keeping all workers safe.

**Presenters:** **Dee Jepsen** – OSU Extension program director, Ohio AgrAbility; **Laura Akgerman** – OSU Extension disabilities service coordinator, Ohio AgrAbility; **Lisa Pfeifer** – OSU Extension education coordinator, Ohio AgrAbility; **Jacqueline Kowalski** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Summit County; **Gary Pottebaum** – director of transition and community employment, Easterseals Serving Greater Cincinnati

## Harvesting Health in the Heartland: Partnering for a More Sustainable, Equitable Food System

Produce Perks is Ohio's statewide nutrition incentive program, guided by the Ohio Nutrition Incentive Network (OH-NIN). Nutrition incentives are an evidence-based model supported by the USDA through the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive (FINI) grant program within the 2014 Farm Bill. OH-NIN consists of organizations including Produce Perks Midwest, the Cuyahoga County office of OSU Extension, Countryside Conservancy, Farmers' Market Association of Toledo, Farmers' Market Management Network, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Grocers Association, The Prevention Research Center for Health Neighborhoods at Case Western Reserve University, Wholesome Wave, and more than 85 Ohio farmers' markets. Together, OH-NIN has worked to address food insecurity and healthy food access issues while supporting small to mid-sized farms and benefiting local economies. In 2017, Produce Perks generated more than \$300,000 in Supplemental Nutrition Education Program (SNAP)/Produce Perks sales to Ohio farmers and local food producers.

**Presenters:** **Amanda Osborne** – OSU Extension educator, community development, Cuyahoga County; **Ana Bird** – statewide program coordinator, Produce Perks Midwest; **Tevis Foreman** – executive director, Produce Perks Midwest

## Assessing Potential Peak Energy Demand Management Strategies In Agriculture

The objective of the agricultural energy management program was to install advanced energy metering equipment in agricultural facilities to track electric demand profiles and monitor power quality. Specifically, we partnered with six farms to collect energy usage data for individual motor loads, allowing our team to analyze how specific operations contribute to each farm's overall peak demand charges. Ohio State's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering developed energy models to simulate load shifting and evaluate the economic impact. The intended audience includes Extension personnel working with agricultural producers, students, and researchers with interest in energy management and electrical and computer engineering.

We will provide an overview of the project partnerships, research methods, outreach and education goals, and preliminary results; and we will discuss potential energy management strategies.

**Presenters:** **Eric Romich** – OSU Extension field specialist, energy development; **Mahesh Illindala** – associate professor, Ohio State College of Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering; **Chris Zoller** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Tuscarawas County; **Tim Barnes** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Marion County; **Rory Lewandowski** – OSU Extension educator, agriculture and natural resources, Wayne County

### **Emotional Intelligence at Work: Because There is More Than Just IQ**

In the work environment, it is important to work well as a team, whether it's colleagues, adults, teens, or youth. These skills are often referred to as social and emotional intelligence. We will share an overview of a curriculum developed related to emotional intelligence. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about emotional intelligence, experience some of the lessons, and walk away with the lessons to take back and utilize in their own communities.

**Presenters:** **Hannah Epley** – OSU Extension specialist, 4-H teens and camping; **Crystal Ott** – Ohio 4-H Foundation program manager; **Katie Feldhues** – OSU Extension educator, 4-H youth development, Ross County

### **Ohio's Clean Marinas Program: Impacting Water Quality through Outreach**

The Ohio Clean Marinas Program is a partnership between Ohio Sea Grant, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association that encourages marinas and boaters to use best management practices to keep Ohio's coastal and inland waterway resources clean. The program enhances environmental stewardship in the recreational boating industry by making marinas and boaters more aware of environmental laws and recommendations, and recognizing proactive members of the community as "Clean Marinas." Through continued efforts to strengthen and expand existing partnerships, the Ohio Clean Marinas Program serves as an example of a way for university, industry, and agency organizations to work together to achieve a common goal – improved air and water quality.

**Presenter:** **Sarah Orlando** – program manager, Ohio Sea Grant

### **The Joyful Extension Professional: Insights from the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu**

Learn how living a joyful life will help foster productivity and effective relationships. As Extension professionals, we are in constant relationships with others to do our job. The primary resource for this session is *The Book of Joy* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu (2016). Therefore, by adopting joy practices as outlined by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu, we can maintain a positive, joyful perspective. They posit eight pillars as key for greater joy and peace, which are: 1) perspective, 2) humility, 3) humor, 4) acceptance, 5) forgiveness, 6) gratitude, 7) compassion, and 8) generosity. Participants will learn "joy practices" using the eight pillars of joy to intentionally overcome obstacles and cultivate joy.

**Presenters:** **Scott Scheer** – professor, Ohio State Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership, and OSU Extension